

# Nature Nook Opens at Dover Public Library

DOVER (July 29, 2013) – The Nature Nook opens today at the Dover Public Library. The nook is a space for kids to learn and get excited about nature and the outdoors. DNREC's Division of Parks and Recreation, the Children in Nature Task Force, and the Dover Public Library are collaborating on the project.

"The Children in Nature initiative works to connect families with the outdoors, and the Nature Nook is a wonderful opportunity to interact directly with the community and share information about the environment," said Erin Murphy, Children in Nature Coordinator at DNREC's Division of Parks and Recreation.

The Nature Nook houses nature-related books for all ages, ranging from field guides to picture books. Families can stop by to get ideas for outdoor activities or just sit down to read.

"With summer in full swing, now is a great time for families and children to get outside and enjoy the sunshine," said Matt Ritter, Chief of Programming for DNREC's Division of Parks and Recreation. "The Nature Nook provides a new place to think about the natural world, with backpacks ready for checkout when families are ready to explore," Ritter said.

Although located inside the Dover Library, the Nature Nook is focused on getting kids and parents to explore the natural world outside. Seven themed backpacks are available for checkout, each containing fun and educational tools to discover nature firsthand.

The Backyard Explorer pack has ideas for exploring the neighborhood – why not bring a blanket into the backyard and

look at the stars at night? Splash around with the Pond Life pack – bring it to a nearby stream or go for a visit to Killens Pond State Park. The seven backpack themes include: Backyard Explorer, Birding, Geology, Insects, Nature Art, Pond Life and Woodlands.

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